

Waganakising Odawa
Tribal Council
Land and Reservation Committee
Room 312
November 15, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

Committee Members Present: Councilor Regina Gasco Bentley, Councilor Dexter McNamara, Committee Chairperson Mel Kiogima
Committee Members Absent: none

Motion made by Councilor Bentley, seconded by Councilor McNamara, to adopt the amended Agenda.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent

Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilor McNamara, seconded by Councilor Bentley, to approve the Minutes, as presented, of November 1, 2008.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent

Motion carries.

Old/Ongoing Business

Committee Chairperson Kiogima led discussion on the status of the Tim Buck Too property. An e-mail status report was received from Housing Director John Givens on Friday, November 14, 2008, advising that he has not yet met with Don Garry of the U.S.D.A., but advised that the property is secured, insured, will be winterized, and that he will continue to try to contact Mr. Garry so that this lease can lapse. In light of the current budget situation, and with concurrence from the Committee members, Committee Chairperson Kiogima will send an e-mail note to the Executive encouraging a speedy termination of this lease.

Committee Chairperson Kiogima led discussion on the inquiry made of the Executive by Legislative Leader Bea Law about the status of the initiation of a Facility Study. With the concurrence of all Committee members, it was decided that a recommendation be made to the full Tribal Council that the Facility Study be initiated and conducted by Tribal Council. To make this recommendation, the following motion was made:

Motion made by Councilor McNamara, and seconded by Councilor Bentley, for Legislative Services Attorney Budnick to draft a 'motion,' for consideration of Tribal Council, to establish a Work Group to study the need for an additional facility for various program needs.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 absent

Motion carries.

New Business

Attorney Budnick led discussion about a Rhode Island court case that has the state trying to stop the Narragansett Tribe from putting land into trust. The case centers around the interpretation of

the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (IRA). Rhode Island argues that the IRA, and so the land-into-trust process, only applies to Tribes that were recognized before the IRA was enacted. The Narragansett argue that it applies to all Tribes that are federally recognized. It was pointed out the LTBB's right to put land into trust falls under the IRA.

Indian Land Tenure Foundation Project

Committee Chairperson Kiogima reports the Project continues to work within budget.

Attorney Budnick continues to work on a second budget modification request to the ILTF. The justification for the request will be the presentation of a mini-'land' training session for the youth of LTBB. The tentative date for the training will be sometime in January or February of 2009.

Committee Chairperson Kiogima reports that the draft Progress Report was submitted electronically to the ILTF on November 6, 2008, with a printed copy mailed to the ILTF. A printed copy will be available for Tribal Council review at the Tribal Council Regular Meeting on Sunday, November 16, 2008.

It was reported that to date approximately 300 of the 'land' surveys have been returned. During the meeting, as discussions were held, un-stuffing of the envelopes took place.

The next steps for the Committee is to compile and analyze the 'land' surveys, continue to work on the mini-'land' training session for the youth, compile the LTBB 'land' statutes that are currently in place, determine a source of revenue for land purchases, and present a LTBB Strategic Land Plan to Tribal Council.

10:00 a.m. Public Comment opened. Comments were received from Jannan Cornstalk about an idea for the Victories Property (Hard Rock Café-like restaurant), an outside arboretum, and the establishment of a Veteran's Memorial. Comments received from (?) about the need for a museum for the history of the Odawa.

10:12 a.m. Public Comments closed.

No further action items needed to be addressed.

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2008, from 4-6 p.m. in the Court Room.

Motion made by Councilor McNamara, seconded by Councilor Bentley, to adjourn at 10:13 a.m.